



Council on Child  
Safety and  
Family Empowerment

**GOVERNOR DUCEY'S OFFICE OF YOUTH, FAITH AND FAMILY**  
**COUNCIL ON CHILD SAFETY AND FAMILY EMPOWERMENT**

*Outreach Subcommittee*

**August 8, 2019**  
**10:00 AM**

**1700 West Washington Street Suite 230**  
**5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85007**

*A general meeting of the Outreach Subcommittee was convened on August 8, 2019, at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith, and Family, Suite 230 Conference Room A, Phoenix, Arizona, 85007. Notice having been duly given.*

Members Present (6)	
Katie O'Dell, Chair	
Jenica McMaster, Co-Chair	
Cody Fort	
Robin Pearson	
Steve Vogel (on phone)	
Richard Yarbough	
Members Absent (3)	Staff/Guests Present (2)
Paul Mulligan	Cecilia Fernandez
Warren Stewart, Jr.	Mark Klym
Laura Magruder	

**MEETING MINUTES**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Katie O'Dell, Chair, called the Outreach Subcommittee meeting to order at 10:10 AM with six members present and three members absent, one guest and one staff present.

**2. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS**

Ms. Jenica McMaster, Co-Chair, welcomed the Subcommittee members and made introductions. Mr. Mark Klym provided an overview of his work at the Department of Child Safety (DCS) Office of Prevention.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Ms. Katie O'Dell requested a motion to approve the minutes from the June 6, 2019 Outreach Subcommittee meeting. Mr. Richard Yarbough motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. Steve Vogel seconded. Motion passed with no dissenting votes.

#### **4. VIDEO DISCUSSION**

Ms. O'Dell shared the quote for proposed video edits and the emailed response from the leadership at the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF). The subcommittee decided to table the discussion to next month until GOYFF leadership can provide more guidance. Ms. O'Dell stated that she will request a meeting with Director Maria Fuentes, GOYFF and Ms. Cynthia Weiss, DCS.

#### **5. COMMUNITY MEETING PLANNING**

DCS was invited by the subcommittee chairs to discuss and respond to the subject areas the subcommittee listed in the June 6, 2019 meeting, Mr. Klym was sent as the DCS representative for today's meeting. Mr. Klym described projects that he is working on in South Mountain Village with Ms. Lillian Armstrong, Mr. Roy Dawson and Pastor Newton. He described the project with Ms. Armstrong as similar to what the subcommittee had discussed in the previous subcommittee meeting. His work with Mr. Dawson and Pastor Newton included a tour of the facilities, explanation of common misunderstandings of DCS process and investigations, and discussion about a video describing these misunderstandings to be presented to the faith community. In response to Mr. Yarbough's comment that he received information that 90% of removals are due to neglect, Mr. Klym described how DCS interprets and works towards the idea of "neglect" and provided examples of his work in the field. Mr. Klym states that there are cases where neglect has been substantiated, but the child(ren) were not removed from the home. Mr. Klym strongly suggested building on the work that is being done in South Mountain Village in working from the point of view of building nurturing families and integrating the Strengthening Families Protective Factors into the work. He invited the subcommittee members to attend a presentation that he will be providing at the Hope Women's Center to address many of the issues brought up in this discussion from a strengths based point of view. Mr. Klym also states that there are Adverse Childhood Experience and Protective Factors shared in the presentation content.

Questions and topics from the subcommittee included:

- What is the process of DCS staff training of culture and socio-economic status rules and tools
- How does DCS policy translates from decision makers to the front line
- What does the general public know about topics surrounding the child welfare requirements and language
- What happens if a DCS case worker believes a child should be removed from the home for 'neglect'
- What does DCS believe is the cause for disproportionality in the removal of African American children from the home (Ms. Cecilia Fernandez gave an overview of the work that the African American Children and Families subcommittee is doing on this topic)

The discussion circled back to the video and how it can be marketed to various public organizations, churches, schools and medical offices. Members discussed that they would like to have experts who can speak to the topics in the list generated at the last meeting and go through it from a DCS perspective. Ms. Pearson will be the liaison to invite Ms. Katherine Guffy to the next meeting, Mr. Klym will loop in his supervisor, Ms. Susan Smith and any other individual at DCS who might be able to answer questions.

Comments were made that the goal of this subcommittee is to stay within the context of the subcommittee, move the needle and serve the community by providing information about the

data and allowing feedback from the community.

**6. AGENDA ITEMS NEXT MEETING**

Members agreed that guests from DCS would speak about their respective topic areas, meeting from 10:00am to 12:00pm to allow time for discussion. Meeting to be held in the GOYFF office, conference room A.

**7. FUTURE MEETING DATES**

- Thursday, September 5, 2019
- Every 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month

**8. ADJOURN**

Ms. Katie O'Dell requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. McMasters moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Fort. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM with no dissenting votes.